

THE WELLONS FAMILY

Historical Sketch

BY REV. J. W. WELLONS



M. L.

Gc
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3 1833 01435 8508

or Williams settled around Hill
up near Belmont & raised a large
village of children -

Bob, Tom, Benj, Matthew, Fred, Johnathan
& Joseph Henry REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

2 Williams was 1st - had 1 daughter Annie
and 2 sons - Stephen and
children of 2nd marriage - Tom Bailey

Peggy
Hilda

Heartwell

3 Heartwell B. 1794 - D 1885 - Dr. son of 1812-14
M. Bailey (Stephens) daughter
of a local Stephens & wife of
W. A. T. Ruth claimed to be 68 yrs old

of John Russell Belmont B. Aug 1821 d. 16 1877
Julia A.
Julia was born & married to Bailey & b. 1850 3/4 A.P.
Violence
and Elaine in East A. Stephens 1st
m. (1st) (premarital) (Keweenaw) Washington D. C.

1878 - 1880 - 1881 - 1882 - 1883

1884 - 1885 - 1886 - 1887 - 1888
1889 - 1890 - 1891 - 1892 - 1893
1894 - 1895 - 1896 - 1897 - 1898
1899 - 1900 - 1901 - 1902 - 1903

In 1865 he was arrested by a Federal officer & was carried to Canada to affirm because he was accused of being a leading spirit in the rebellion. (See 1911)

He again returned in 1869. 1869 all the So. Chi. men.

1870 attended the So. Conf at Mansfield

1870 Sec. of Conf.

1872 Built Antelope

1872 Conducted a female school in the same

1873 Holy Neck Seminary was established

1872, At A.C.C at Cincinnati O., & with a few
members of the school and others

1872 N.C. to Can. 1873 an Anti-slavery move-
ment was excited & a school for

1873 brought the men & headed at 1874
1872, to C.C. Conf. conference at Elgin, H.B. Brown
1st Pres.

1878 So. Chi. men met at Cypress Chapel in Dec 1871
1880 but & then organized. ^{in Dec 1871}

1882 Died from inf. & published his last known
writing for article

Author of "Young's Weekly newspaper, later
became a Chadian in C.C.C."

May 1886 W.L. Young met at Del. Auction House in N.Y.
a & went to his body, examined

1887 at same place. 1887 began to
reprint the C.C.C. book

1889 Young's was published

1891 Rev. J. & Dorothy ordained

1892 A.C.C. opened on 8. 1872, Chautauk Mar 4

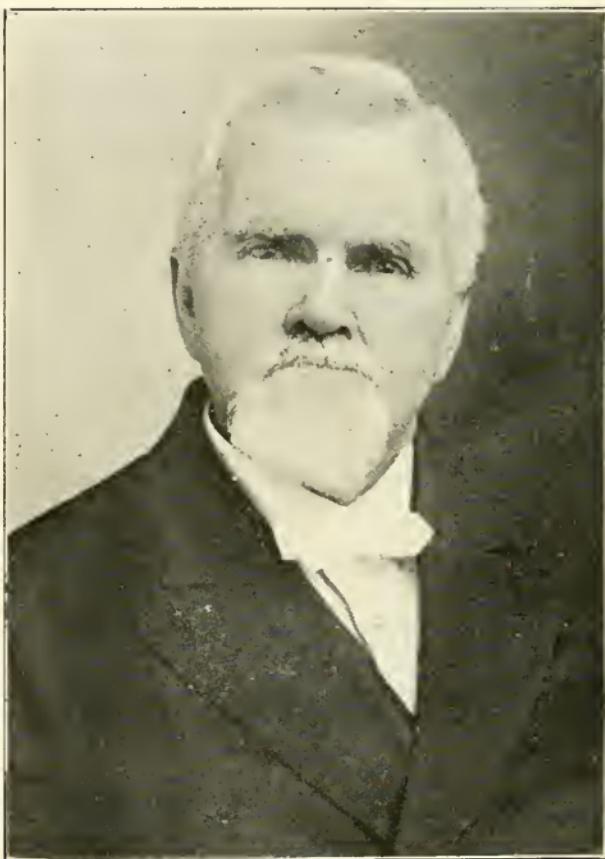
1872

1872 established school

1841 Began teaching at Barkham Mill
1842 Continued at the same place
1841 Began to hold frequent meetings & meet for
1843 Continued to hold frequent meetings & they
1844 Moved his school to Harrowbrough
1844-Not before 14th Sabbath in May he was
1845 Aug 2 Received a license of lay at
1846-Jan 11, Preached his 1st regular discourse at Barkham

1750
NTF

I am encouraged to say
was blessed with great ^{discomfort} discouragement &
& had a distinct call to preach
recommended by Banister Church as a licentiate
by first Chapel, the next day preached to ^{the} congregation
etc. ^{March 17' 6}



REV. J. W. WELLONS.

A
HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

Wellons Family

BY

REV. JAMES WILLIS WELLONS
ELON COLLEGE, N. C.

RICHMOND, VA.
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DEDICATION.

In token of highest esteem for her many graces and noble virtues, this little volume is affectionately dedicated to my grand-niece, Susan Hitch, Norfolk, Virginia.

A copy of this book can be had, for fifty cents, and
five cents additional for postage, by addressing:
Rev. J. W. Wellons, Elon College, N. C.;
Miss Susan Hitch, 293 York St., Norfolk, Va.; or
The Christian Sun Office, Elon College, N. C.

PREFACE.

This little volume goes forth on its mission of love to bring about the reunion of the Wellons family in the various states and territories and to enable the members thereof to learn more of each other. My means of obtaining correct information in colonial times were very limited, as the records of Southampton County, Virginia, where the family became numerous, were once destroyed by fire.

I do not know whether Captain John Leu-wellyn who afterwards dropped the first three letters of his name and spelled it Wellyn and Captain John Weldon of 1619 were the same person; but at any rate they were sea-faring captains bringing persons from England to this country. As very few at that time knew how to spell, they wrote their names to suit themselves.

John Wellons came to Southampton County, Virginia, and settled at Round Hill Bridge on a farm (now Berlin). I give his family and their connections as published in this little volume, and by means of it every one of the family can trace their connections to each other, although they may be a thousand miles apart.

As far as I have been able to trace the family they have been honest, truthful, and industrious, both men and women, bearing good characters. I have yet to learn of one of them who was punished for a violation of the laws of the land. Quite a number of them, although they have filled humble positions in life, were good peaceable neighbors and citizens, and others have grown wealthy, and many have filled high positions in life, —have filled professions both with credit to themselves and their families.

I believe that each member of the family will find that it is no discredit to wear the

Wellons name, and that it is no dishonor to have the Wellons blood coursing through their veins.

J. W. WELLONS.



MISS SUSAN HITCH.

CHAPTER I.

THE WELLONS FAMILY.

ABIOGRAPHICAL Sketch of the Wellons Family, written by Rev. James Willis Wellons in his eighty-fifth year for his Great Niece, Miss Susan Hitch of Norfolk, Virginia.

These facts are drawn from memory, tradition and historical records. The Wellons family came from Wales on the western coast of England some time in the sixteenth century. The exact number I cannot learn. There were three brothers, and possibly some of them might have had families. They might have left Wales for political reasons, I know not. They were all of the established Church of England beyond a doubt when they arrived in America. We find in a book called the Records of Virginia Colony, that Captain John Weldon came from England in 1619 in

a ship called Bona Unard, and he was a sea-faring captain bringing passengers from England to the new colony, and finally decided to settle here himself.

We find also in another book called the Military officers of Virginia, in 1680, that Major Samuel Weldon came to this country. Now, whether either of these were connected with our Wellons family, or not, I do not know, as they spelled their names differently, but I am inclined to the opinion they were. The Wellons families ascended the James River, and settled in the peninsula between the York and Rappahannock Rivers in Virginia, possibly in Gloucester or Matthews County east of Richmond. Here they remained a few years and became restless to see more of the New World, as it was to them. After a while they returned down the James River to about Newport News and Norfolk, and, finally, went out into Isle of Wight County about Smithfield or Benn's Church, the oldest Protestant church in this country. (The

material in this building was all imported.) From here they moved out east fifteen or twenty miles into Southampton County and settled on Round Hill (now Berlin) which had become the center of attraction with them. Now, I find some difficulty in locating and naming these families. The records of Southampton County afford me some help. I find John Wellons located on Round Hill where he raised a large family of children. And he also raised a large number of slaves. I get the names of some of his children: Bob, William, Benjamin, Matthew, Thomas W., John Weston, and, I think, also, Henry. Benjamin married Lucretia Clark, and they moved to Johnston County, North Carolina, near Smithfield in 1791. Here, James A. Wellons, Attorney at Law, will take up that part of the family now in North Carolina and those who have gone from North Carolina.

Thomas moved away about that time and we have lost sight of him. William married a Miss Hawkins of England, and my brother

was named after him. William, my grandfather was married twice and his first wife left one child, Annie, who married and had a daughter named Etney, who married and had three daughters, two married Vicks: Rhoda's son George was once Sheriff of Southampton County. Etney married Jesse Vick and died early in life. Bettie married Joseph Gardner, and they have two sons living near Sedley, Virginia. William her only son married Narissa Stephenson. My Grandfather's second wife had four children: William Bailey, Peggy, Willis and Hartwell. Peggy married Northworthy and left five children all of whom I think are dead. William Bailey married and moved to Alabama and I do not know what became of his family. He left one son, Thomas, in Norfolk, a local Methodist preacher and I do not know what has become of his family. Willis married a Miss Oney and had seven children. His first wife died, and he married again, a Mrs. Elizabeth Traves and they had two children. Benjamin

the oldest son, married and had three children, he died early in life; daughter and son live at the old place and never married. W. B. lives in Norfolk, Virginia, married and has a wife and three children and belongs to the Disciple Church. He is a real Wellons in features and size, weighing about one hundred and forty pounds. The first children are now dead except Mrs. Priscilla Traves, Airfield, Southampton County, Virginia, who has two sons: R. C. Hines with whom she lives, and P. A. Hines, Wakefield, Virginia.

Hartwell was born in 1794, and died in 1863, He was in the war of 1812-'14. He married Polly Stephenson, the best woman I ever knew, an only child of Willie Stephenson and Sallie West. (They were all members of the Christian Church.) My parents both died in their sixty-eighth year. My father was eight years older than my mother. They left four children:

William Brock, the eldest child, was born in 1821, and joined the Eastern Virginia

Christian Conference in 1845 and became the leading spirit of the Christian Church, South. He was president of the Southern Christian Convention, Editor and Proprietor of the Christian Sun for twenty-five years. He was a Mason, having taken the thirty-three degrees. He edited the Army and Navy Messenger in time of the War between the States. He was a self-made man of great ability. All his large estates, consisting of real estate and fifty-three slaves were lost in the War, but from that he rallied, and left a valuable estate when he died in 1877. He was a valuable man in the Ambulance corps during the War. He married Mrs. Sarah L. Beasley of New Berne, North Carolina. In New Berne he organized a good church. He also organized three other good churches during his ministry.

Florine, his only child, married, first Thomas A. Hines of Suffolk, Virginia; second, Henry Brewer of Washington, D. C. She died in 1906, leaving two children: Dr.

Lewis A. Hines of Savannah, Georgia, and Mrs. Viola Mason, wife of Dr. E. L. Mason, of Washington, D. C. Her oldest son, William Wellons, died some years before.

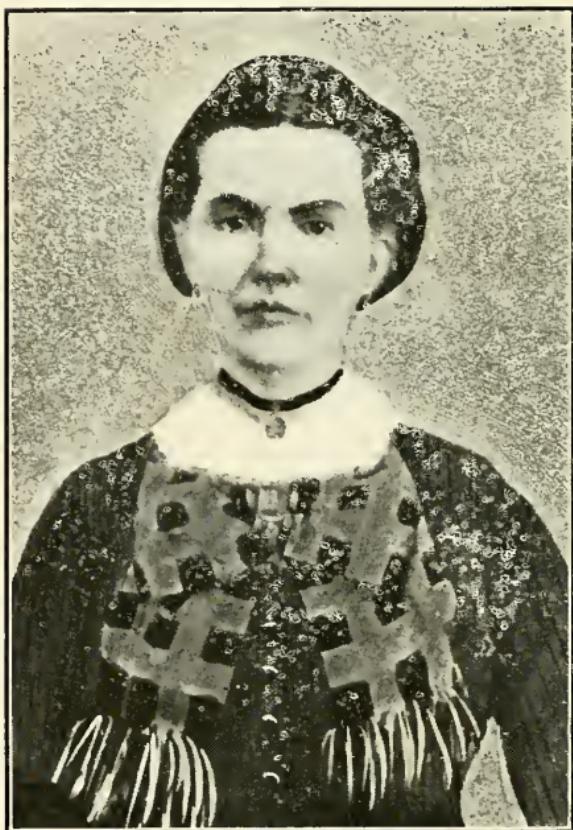
Julia, the second child, was born in 1823, and married in 1850 Rives Chappell Wells, an estimable man of Prince George County, Virginia. They left two children, William Charles Wells, a lawyer of prominence of Washington, D. C., and Mary Susan, who married Frank Hitch of Maryland, a very successful manufacturer of lumber. To them were born five children. For Susan, the oldest, I have prepared this sketch.

This family were all very corpulent—Rev. W. B. Wellons weighed at one time 270 pounds. The Wellons family are rather light built.

James Willis, the third child, was born January 1, 1826. He has never married, but has devoted his life to his ministerial and pastoral work for more than fifty-five years. He joined the North Carolina and Virginia

Christian Conference in 1854. After the War between the States, he succeeded in organizing the colored people into a conference of their own color, and built for them a Christian college at Franklinton, North Carolina. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Elon College since its establishment, He is also a member of the Executive Board, and has never missed a meeting of either. He has never missed but one Conference to which he belonged since 1853, and was at that time in the hands of the Federal army. He has never missed a Southern Christian Convention since 1856, and but few quadrennial conventions during his ministry. He is a Mason of fifty-four years. He now lives at Elon College, North Carolina.

The fourth child, Indiana A. V., was born in 1835. She married the Rev. Thomas W. Joyner who lived ten years and two months after her marriage, and died childless. Two years later she married Henry May of Lynch-



MRS. HENRY MAY.

burg, Virginia, and had but one child and that died in infancy. They lived about fifteen years happily together. She was a woman of good business qualities and easy of manners. Henry May, her husband, is a fine looking man, weighs about two hundred pounds, fine property, very popular, deals in real estate, a Mason of high order, member of the Methodist Church and never has married since the death of his wife.

Bob, a son of John Wellons, married and lived on the Round Hill farm formerly owned by his father. He raised a family of twelve children, nine boys and three girls. Some of the boys I have the names of: Wilson, Asa, James B., and Wiley. Wilson lived near Berlin and was a prominent citizen in that community. Asa moved to Ohio. Dr. J. W. Wellons of Columbia, Ohio, will give a sketch of that part of the family.

Another brother moved to Kentucky and was lost sight of. Wilson Wellons had four beautiful daughters but I do not know whom

they married. His son, Captain Wiley Wellons, who was in the War of 1812-'14 married and raised three daughters. He and his wife both died young, leaving them good estate and good attainments. Eliza married Dr. A. S. H. Burgess, a man of fine ability and a leading physician in that section. They had a son, Dr. Richard U. Burgess, who married a Miss Keller. He died leaving a son who is now a prominent physician in Norfolk, where he has a fine practice. Martha married Joseph Gardner. She died leaving several children. Lucy married Dr. Bob Griffin, a fine man and a good physician. He had a son who was a prominent physician of ability. Captain James B. Wellons was a brother of Wiley and was in the War of 1812-'14. I do not know whether he received the title of Captain in the War of 1812-'14, or not.

I find the will both of John and Charles Wellons probated October, 1773. I find John Wellons, another of the family, had two sons,



JOHN WELLONS.

William and Benjamin, 'l probated 1780. Bob Wellons' daughter, Barbara, married William Oney a revolutionary soldier.

Matthew Wellons had two sons, Weston and Robert. Robert was one of the unfortunate. He drank to excess, and his children were uneducated. But two of his sons, John and William, have been successful and accumulated good property. John was born March 17, 1839, and has been twice married and has raised a most excellent family of children.

His youngest daughter, Lillian Alice, was for a while a student at Elon College, N. C., a most excellent girl. William is an excellent farmer and has a nice family all doing well and standing high in the community. They all live near Sedley, Southampton County, Virginia. I find another, Charles Wellons, whose will was probated in 1804.

Mrs. Sallie Wellons who was the mother of Ira Wellons also had a daughter, but I do not know what her name was. I also find a

name, Dorcas Wellons, but I do not know who she was.

I find another Wilson Wellons who was in the War of 1812-'14 and drew a pension. He had a son William, who was hurt at a saw mill and died.

James Wellons had a son who went to Tennessee in 1846 and we have lost sight of him.

Bob Wellons was a very devoted Christian man, a member of the Methodist church. His wife was a very high-minded, fashionable woman and fond of the world. They owned fine property as he married wealthy.

Shelley Wellons moved to Perry, Houston County, Georgia, and was lost sight of.

Wiley Wellons was a local Methodist preacher. Charles Wellons had one son and two daughters. Weston Wellons had two daughters both of whom married Holts in North Carolina. Charles and Weston moved to Johnston County, North Carolina, and settled about twelve miles from Smithfield on Little River. They went from Southampton Coun-

ty, Virginia, and were brothers. E. J. Holt is a grandson of Charles Wellons. Benjamin said he had always understood that the family came from Cicero, England. Many of the older members of the family were uneducated as the opportunity for getting an education at that time was very limited. This caused a confusion in the spelling of the name. Captain John Wellons spelled his Welloyn; others, Wellin, Wellen, Wellend for Wellons. In the early records I see there was a disposition to shorten the name.

They raised large families, accumulated property, slaves, large tracts of land, and lived comfortably, and their word was their bond. Benjamin was in the Revolutionary War. I do not know how many more of the family were in the war. Quite a number of them were in the War of 1812-'14, and in the Mexican War, and a large number of them were in the Civil War, and some in the Spanish-American War, and some to drive back

the Indians in Mississippi and elsewhere, and to suppress the Murrell Clan.

Some have won military distinctions, some have been statesmen, some ministers, some lawyers, judges, and a large number physicians, and many distinguished farmers and teachers.

(This sketch is very imperfect thus far, having to go so far back for names and dates, I have no means of getting at them with perfect accuracy. Other sketches will be more accurate, because they are of more recent date.)



MRS. R. C. WELLS.

CHAPTER* II.

IN 1791 Benjamin Wellons together with Charlie and Wiley Wellons, brothers, moved from Southampton, Virginia, to North Carolina. Charlie and Wiley Wellons settled on Little River in Johnston County about 12 miles east of Smithfield, the County seat. They were industrious and prominent farmers in their community. Their descendants are like their ancestors, industrious, thrifty and prominent farmers. They made little pretensions for public life but were contented to live in their humble way on the farm and by their industry accumulated nice little fortunes. They were then and are until this day noted for their honesty and integrity. Among the most prominent of their descendants are John Wellons, Sidney

* This sketch was furnished me by James A. Wellons, Attorney, of Smithfield, N. C.

Wellons and Charles Wellons who have all educated their children, which children are taking a prominent stand as educators in the schools of this country.

Benjamin Wellons settled on what is known as the old Wellons plantation, about two miles south of Smithfield on Neuse River. He was a revolutionary soldier and, before moving to North Carolina, married a Miss Lucy Clark who died in 1795 and was buried on the aforesaid old Wellons plantation which he owned.

Zachariah Wellons, who was the oldest son of Benjamin Wellons, after the death of his father, remained on the old homestead with his mother, Lucy Clark, and assisted her in raising the younger children. In 1810 he married Lizzie Locket and, having bought up the interests of his brothers and sisters in his father's old homestead, lived all of his life there and died October 20, 1853, and was buried in the old Wellons graveyard beside his father, Benjamin Wellons. To the union

of Zachariah Wellons and Lizzie Locket were born Martha Wellons who died single; Betsey Wellons who died single; Eliza Wellons who married B. A. Woodall and from this union two girls and two boys were born. Emma who died while quite a child; Katie who married Professor J. L. Davis and they had one child Almon L. Davis who is now a prominent banker at Burlington, North Carolina. Eliza and B. A. Woodall's two boys were E. H. Woodall, a prominent farmer who lives six miles west of Smithfield and W. L. Woodall a prominent merchant and president of the Bank of Smithfield, who now lives at Smithfield, North Carolina.

Malissa Wellons, a daughter of Zachariah Wellons and Lizzie Locket, was very prominent in educational circles but she died without ever having married.

Rebecca, the second daughter of Zachariah Wellons, while quite young married James Byrd of Cumberland County and is yet living with her son Offie Byrd and

daughter Bettie Byrd at Linden in Harnett County, North Carolina. She also had a son, James Byrd, named for his father. These people have all been contented to live a quiet home life on their farms. They have been industrious and honest, and all own nice comfortable homes.

Benjamin Wellons the oldest son of Zachariah Wellons, lived all of his life on the old Wellons plantation and died May 25, 1905, and was buried in the cemetery at Smithfield, North Carolina. He was a prominent farmer and was contented to live on his farm, however, he was induced to represent Johnston County in the State Legislature in 1887. He first married a Miss Barnes from Wayne County and had four children: Zachariah, who was named for his grandfather, and James and Lida Wellons, and a daughter Delia Wellons. Delia and Lida both died single. Zachariah, the oldest boy of Benjamin Wellons, married a Miss Sarah Rand, a daughter of Oscar Rand, and

to this union were born five children: David, Mary, Lida, Eunice and Sarah. David, the oldest boy, has just graduated at the A. & M. College at Raleigh, North Carolina. The other children are all small yet.

James W. Wellons, the second oldest son of Benjamin Wellons first married Miss Ora Heath and they had one child, Lizzie Wellons. She married W. H. Johnson and now owns and lives on what is known as the old Heath plantation. Ora died, and then James W. Wellons married Miss Emma Sanders and to this union were born five children; Elma, Ben, Mattie, Emma and Nellie. Elma, the oldest son, is now taking a prominent stand in the junior class at the University of North Carolina. Ben, early developing a talent for railroading, began as a messenger boy and has worked his way up and is now holding a responsible position in the service of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company.

The second oldest son of Zachariah Wel-

lons, J. D. T. Wellons, read medicine at the University of Pennsylvannia from which he graduated and soon thereafter entered the Civil War as a surgeon. After the war he returned to his old home in Johnston County, where he has practiced medicine ever since. In 1850 J. D. T. Wellons married Miss Alice Blackman and to this union were born five children: Alice Ophelia, who died quite young; William Benjamin, who died while a young man; Ozella Leverta who now resides with her father, Dr. J. D. T. Wellons at Four Oaks, North Carolina, and has never married; James A. Wellons who is now a practicing attorney at Smithfield, North Carolina. On Nov. 22, 1893, James A. Wellons and Florence E. Lassiter were married and to this union were born six children: Charles Manley who died while quite an infant; Robert A. Wellons and William B. Wellons are boys yet in their teens; Mabel F. Wellons, Margaret A. Wellons, and Ava E. Wellons are little girls.

A. B. Wellons, the youngest son of Dr. J. D. T. Wellons by his first wife, is now living on his farm about two miles west of Four Oaks, North Carolina, and married Miss Lynch of Austin, Texas, and to this union has been born eight children: Alice, Almond, Mattie, Lizzie, Ella, Johnnie, Edwin and an infant.

Alice, the first wife of Dr. J. D. T. Wellons, died March 4, 1870, and in December, 1871, he married Miss Sarah Marshall Winifred Smith of Harnett County, and to this union were born six children; Lizzie and Johnnie died while infants, Robert and Charlie, the two boys, married two Miss Saters who were sisters and are now residing at Four Oaks, North Carolina; Delia died single, Carrie married Robert E. Lee of Harnett County. He is now a merchant at Falcon, North Carolina.

Jesse Wellons, the second oldest son of Benjamin Wellons and a brother of Zachariah Wellons lived and died [in Johnston

County and was buried on his farm in the eastern part of said county. He first married a Miss Nancy Johnson and had two children, Abel and William H. Wellons. Abel was, in his day, a prominent school teacher and later was prominent in politics. He was Clerk of the Superior Court of Johnston County for twenty years. William H. Wellons who graduated with first honors at the University of North Carolina, devoted his entire life to the cause of education. He was one of the State's most prominent educators. Both of these died without having ever married. Jesse Wellons' second wife was Miss Drusilla Sheppard, and to this union were born two children: John A. Wellons, who is now a prominent merchant at Clinton, North Carolina, and Alice Wellons who married a Mr. Carver. They moved to Virginia, and I know very little of her since then.

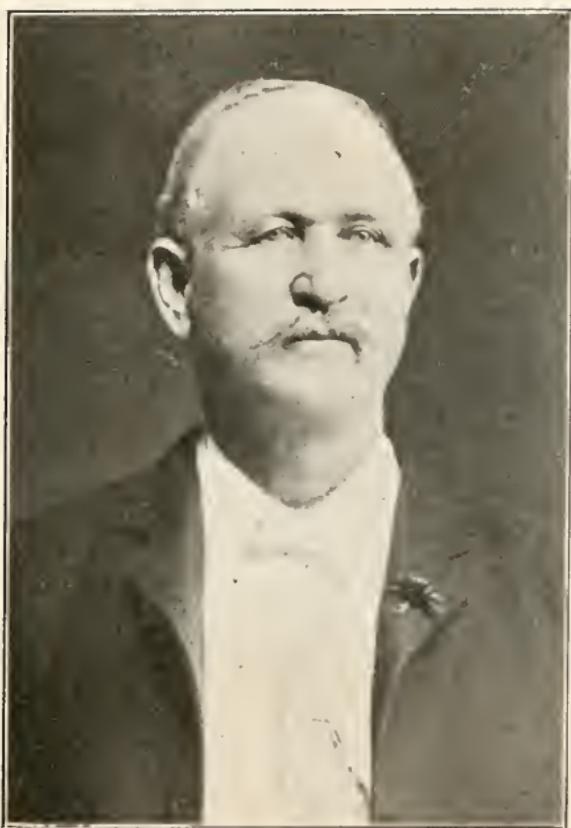
William Wellons another son of Benjamin Wellons and a brother of Zachariah Wellons lived and died at old Waynesboro in Wayne

County, which place is now known as Goldsboro, North Carolina. He was married to a Miss Clark and had two children: Harriet, who married a man by the name of Suggs, I have lost sight of them since, and of a son, Julius, who died while quite a boy. His second marriage was to Miss Minvel Corsie and they had three children: Roena Wellons, the oldest, who married John Henry Powell and they had twelve children, the oldest of which is Eugenia Walton Powell who now resides in Goldsboro, North Carolina. The second oldest, Richard Powell, and Ida Minvel Powell both died while quite young. Mary Powell, Edwin Lee Powell, Lillian Powell and James M. Powell, of these I know nothing; Sallie Powell who married W. T. Hollowell now lives with her husband in Goldsboro. These people are prosperous and getting along well in the world. John W. Powell is prominent druggist in Goldsboro. Emmett Powell and Annie Dewey Powell are yet living with their mother, Roena, in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Amenvil Wellons, a daughter of William Wellons married a William Taylor from Tennessee, and they had five children. Both died, and were buried in Goldsboro. Sarah Taylor the oldest girl of Amenvil Wellons married William Crane and lived for quite a while in Raleigh, North Carolina. They moved from Raleigh to Roanoke, Virginia, since which time I have heard nothing from them. C. T. Taylor yet lives in Goldsboro. Alice Taylor married W. H. Elsworth of Washington, North Carolina, and are yet residing at said place. Lillian Taylor married R. W. Godwin of Aberdeen. They yet live there and are prosperous and happy.

William Wellons of old Waynesboro, North Carolina, had a son by the name of William Wellons who married a Miss Sallie Johnson and had one child, Octavia Wellons. She married Artemus Haskins of Oriental, North Carolina. They are yet living at Oriental and are very prominent people there.

John Wellons the fifth [son of Benjamin



HENRY MAY.

Wellons and brother of Zachariah Wellons died when he was a young man and was buried in the Wellons graveyard just south of Neuse River.

James Wellons, the sixth son of Benjamin Wellons and a brother of Zachariah Wellons, married Cynthia Sanders in 1823, and moved from Smithfield, North Carolina, to Tennessee, and from there to Mississippi, where James Wellons became a prominent judge of that state. A more extended history of him and his family has been prepared by Mrs. W. J. Wellons Miller of Oneco, Florida.

Rebecca, a daughter of Benjamin Wellons and a sister of Zachariah Wellons married a man by the name of Harry Pool. She and her husband lived a quiet life and died and were buried on their farm in Johnston County. Rebecca's oldest son, Sam Pool now resides near Wilson's Mills, N. C. She had four other boys: Henry, John, William and James, and two daughters one of whom married Ferdinand Ellis and resided all her life

with her husband on his farm, near Smithfield, North Carolina.

(E. J. Holt Esq., a prominent citizen of Smithfield, North Carolina, is a grandson of Charles Wellons. J. W. W.)

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CHAPTER* III.

MY great grandfather—your great great grandfather—Benjamin Wellons was a private soldier under Washington during the Revolutionary War.

He moved from Southampton County, Virginia, to Smithfield, North Carolina, sometime in 1798 or '99. His wife was named Lucretia Clark. They had seven children—five boys: Zachariah, Jesse, John, William, and James; and two daughters: Mary and Rebecca.

James, who was my grandfather—your great grandfather—was born in 1799. His father and mother died when he was seven months old, leaving the family to the care of the oldest son, Zachariah, who was fifteen years old. He brought them up to be honor-

*This sketch was prepared by Mrs. C. J. Wellons Miller, Oneco, Fla., for her great nephew, Nixon N. Wellons.

able men and women, giving each one their share of the property as they came of age and each was satisfied with what they received. They all honored him.

James Wellons married Cynthia Sanders when he was twenty-two years old. They had twelve children, but raised only six to years of maturity: Marcus Cicero, Benjamin Hardy, Edward Livingston, George Percy, Virginia and Elizabeth. He moved from Smithfield, North Carolina, to Denmark, Tennessee, in 1830. In 1832, he moved from there to Carrollton, Carroll County, Mississippi, where he amassed a fortune, first, by the practice of law—was Probate Judge for a number of years. Becoming tired of coming in contact with the worst sides of human nature he quit the law practice and went to merchandising. He was a man who was much honored and trusted—his word was his bond. He died at the age of seventy, and my grandmother, a good and beautiful woman, did not long survive him.

Here is the obituary published in one of the Carrollton papers:

The tolling bells announced, on Wednesday last, that another summons from the eternal world had been received and answered in our midst.

At 1 o'clock on Wednesday, 22nd of July, the Hon. James Wellons died at his residence near Carrollton, after a brief illness.

The deceased, one of our most honored citizens, had resided in Carrollton thirty-three years, where by his course in life, he had secured the best regard and esteem of all who knew him. He was one of the pillars of the social fabric, and one of the pillars of the church. He was born in Johnston County, North Carolina, April 12, 1799, and was married to Cynthia Sanders, the 13th of February, 1821. Twelve children blessed their union, five of whom are now living. He removed to Carroll County in 1835, after a few years residence in Tennessee.

In Carroll County he studied law, and en-

tered into the practice with his brother-in-law, the Hon. David O. Shattuck—with what success the records of the courts amply show. Afterwards retiring from the bar, he commenced his career as a merchant, and met with success. He was elected Judge of the Probate Court of the County and served with ability and faithfulness.

The Judge was a remarkable man, else I would have been content to drop the tear of sorrowing friendship on his grave. But it is due to the world that the lives of such men should remind us that we may accomplish success, win it by struggling for it—take it away from unwilling fortune. He had no extraneous aid in life. He was, in truth, self-trained, self-taught. His literary attainments were excellent, his frequent public speeches, and written productions in newspapers abundantly testify. His professional attainments enabled him to maintain a good standing with the bar.

A man of more sterling qualities never

lived. Resolute, firm, fixed, when he thought he was right—kind, generous, humane. There lives no man, woman, or child, now since he is dead and gone, his record made up, will say that he ever received an unkindness at his hands. His intellect was clear, apprehensive, solid, his marked intellectual quality was his logical power.

During the war he was an ardent advocate of the Southern cause. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church, in whose bosom he died, cherishing the Christian's enlightened, confident hope of heaven.

And so a good man has gone, but see—he has illustrated a life of sobriety, ornamented with a Christian character. "The good, men do, lives after them."

He lived out his three score years and ten, within a few years; that Bible promise he secured. His physical vigor up to his last illness, was unequaled—and thus, full of years, and of honors, with mourning friends about him, he said he was willing to die, and

he died quietly, peacefully, like one sinking to rest, and then his sorrowing friends came, and the Masonic fraternity of Carrollton, of which he was an honored member of high rank, took his body and placed it in the ground, showing all the honor that true sorrow and ritual can bestow.

My father—your grandfather—Marcus Cicero Wellons, was born on the 29th of March, 1823, in Smithfield, North Carolina. He attended Centenary College, which was located at Jackson, Mississippi, some time in the early forties. He went into the Mexican War in 1840 and was honorably discharged on account of ill health.

He married in 1847, June 1st, Sarah Ann Nixon and soon after went into partnership with his father in a branch house in Black Hawk, Mississippi. His health failing in 1859, he bought a plantation on Palucid creek, four and one-half miles from Carrollton, Mississippi. The Civil War coming on, he went into the Confederate army—was a

member of Company B, 28th Mississippi cavalry, Armstrong's Brigade, Jackson's Division.

He, after the war, worked his place for some years but soon, in order to educate his children, he commenced teaching again, which he had begun at the age of eighteen. It was the work he loved best and he followed it successfully for years. He was much loved, honored and trusted by all.

He died at the age of 75 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Edith Wellons Miller, in Plant City, Florida. The following is an obituary which appeared in the paper after his death:

Marcus Cicero Wellons was born March 29, 1823, at Smithfield, Johnston County, North Carolina. Died, March 18, 1899, at Plant City, Florida.

"At the age of ten years the deceased moved with his father, Judge James Wellons, to Carrollton, Mississippi, where he lived and filled many places of trust. He was a member of

Jefferson Davis' regiment in the Mexican War; a member of the 28th Mississippi cavalry during the war between the States. He was a Mason of high standing, belonging to Carrollton Lodge No. 36, Carrollton, Mississippi, and an Oddfellow from his early manhood and a devout member of the Episcopal church.

Mr. Wellons leaves a son, T. J. Wellons, of Punta Gorda, Florida, and two daughters, Mrs. Edith Miller, of Plant City, and Mrs. Lelia Barnett, of Punta Gorda, and a grandson Nixon N. Wellons, a member of the 1st Florida Volunteers in the Spanish-American War.

The funeral of Mr. Wellons took place Sunday afternoon attended by a large concourse of people, including a number of Confederate veterans who had known him for many years. Short Episcopal services were held at the residence conducted by Dr. A. M. Barnes. A full Masonic service was then held at the grave in our new Oaklawn cemetery, conducted by the officers and members

of Plant City Lodge, Dr. O. S. Wright leading.

Rest in peace, thou honored veteran of two wars.

He had six children: Thomas James, Cynthia Edith, Sarah Ellen, Lelia Nixon, George Virginia, Lelia Fruman; three of them survive him—Thomas James Wellons, Plant City, Florida, Edith, who married Calvin Jones Miller, of Harris County, Georgia, in 1891, and now lives at Oneco, Manatee County, Florida.

Of my grandfather's other children, Benjamin Hardy died in Goodman, Mississippi, in 1870; Edward Livingston died in Tennessee, in 1852; George Percy died in Austin, Texas, May 16, 1885; Elizabeth, who was Mrs. Evans Harris, died in Willis, Texas, in 1872. She left a son, Evans Percy Harris, who was in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, the last I heard of him; Virginia—Mrs. G. A. Wells is a widow and is in Aspen, Colorado, with her son, G. A. Wells, Her other son, A. L. Wells, is

in St. Louis, an her two daughters, Bessie and May, in Kentucky, I think.

B. H. Wellons left two sons, Frank Brumby Wellons, Marietta, Georgia, and Ben Hardy Wellons, Knoxville, Tennessee, and a daughter Katie, now Mrs. W. S. Turner, who lives near Wenona, Mississippi. Your father, Thomas James Wellons was born near Carrollton, Mississippi, April 18, 1848 and, although a mere boy, was a member of the same company and regiment as his father.

He married Mary Ellen Norwood, January 29, 1874; he moved to Florida in 1885—a man loved, honored and trusted. His only son, Nixon Norwood Wellons, was born near Carrollton, Mississippi, March 30, 1877; he was educated in Florida; and was a member of company B, 1st Florida Volunteers Infantry, during the Spanish-American War. After that he married Marie Gwenlyon Rees of Tampa, on June 29, 1900. They have three children. He has a good business in Tampa

and is a worthy descendent of a noble ancestry.

My great grandfather, my grandfather and my father were all devout members of the Episcopal church and their descendants have with a few exceptions adhered to the faith of their fathers.

CHAPTER* IV.

THE family—as my father related—was ever impatient, and we must admit often unmindful of conventions, and often individual members were known to readily ignore such as they chose to disregard. As an instance, the family name was none other than the well known Welch name Llewellyn which our immediate ancestor, a sea captain, considering the first three letters as quite superfluous, shortened to Wellyn. If my memory is not at fault, Captain John Wellyn married an English woman and settled in Southampton, England, where he raised a family and where he was the means of bringing a numerous family of sisters and brothers.

*This sketch was prepared by Mrs. Virginia Carolina Wellons Wells, of Aspen, Colo., for her great nephew, Nixon N. Wellons, of Tampa, Fla.

Again, our captain grew restive and with brothers and their families and his own—large families were the rule—he went with Lord Newport to carry relief to the starving colony at Newport News. Our Captain with his following settled upon the Eastern Shore, a location which doubtless appealed to their sea-faring tastes and ways.

The members of the family in their new habitat seem to have prospered, raising large families and owning lands and slaves. Still, restless and dissatisfied, they wandered into other portions of the New World and ever ready to change anything which did not suit them if in their power, they spelled the name each one to his own special taste: Welland, Wellen, Wellin, Welling, Wellins, and our own impossible orthography, Wellons, which my father believed had come from Welland, Wellands and pronounced the long English a, soon all, for utility, dropped the d, and spelled the name as pronounced.

So much for the evolution of the name.

My grandfather, Benjamin Wellons, was a Virginian by birth, a tobacco planter by occupation. The wander-lust that seems to have been in the blood caused him to go a moving with his wife, Lucretia Clark, his four small sons: Zachary, Jesse, John, and William, and three or four small daughters whose names I forget, except May and Rebecca. He left Southampton County, and settled near Smithfield, Johnston County, North Carolina, carrying his slaves with him. He died of Pneumonia, leaving my grandmother, a delicate woman, unused to hardships, among strangers, with a family of small children and looking forward to the coming of another—my father. The family struggled along with many losses, until when but a little lad, my father lost his gentle little mother by death.

I know almost nothing of other members of the family. My father, James, was born in 1799 and was married when just twenty-one to my beautiful and charming mother,

Cynthia Sanders, two years his junior. In his turn, my father grew dissatisfied and with his young family, a number of my mother's relatives and their slaves, crossed the Blue Ridge and after a very tiresome journey reached Tennessee, but disappointed there they continued on into Mississippi, which was then traversed only by Indian trails. Here they settled, my father becoming a sterling factor in the settlement of Carrollton and Carroll County. He was a lawyer in partnership with my mother's brother-in-law, Judge David O. Shattuck, afterwards president of Centenary College, preacher and presiding elder of the Methodist church and Supreme Judge of Mississippi; afterwards Supreme Judge of the State of California to which he afterwards moved. This man, Judge Shattuck and my father faced the regulators and compelled them to give way to the laws. They lived through the days of Murrell's robber, murder band which they finally brought to a reckoning and restored

order, law and security to the state. My uncles, William and Hardy Sanders, with their families also came from North Carolina to the new state and their names, too, are identified with the history of Carroll County.

When Judge Shattuck left Carroll County, my father gave up the law and became a merchant and planter. He was elected Judge of the Probate Court and served several terms most acceptably. He was a devoted Mason and honored by the order. He died a short time after the collapse of the Confederacy, to which he gave all. He was the father of twelve children, six of whom died in infancy; those surviving were: Marcus Cicero, Benjamin Hardy, Edward Livingston, George, Virginia Carolina and Cynthia Elizabeth. The oldest, Marcus Cicero, a remarkably handsome and gifted man, was educated at Centenary College, under his uncle, Judge Shattuck, taking high honors. He enlisted in the war with Mexico and belonged to the famed Mississippi rifles, which

under their gallant commander, Jefferson Davis, went to General Taylor's relief and saved the day at Buena Vista.

Your grandfather came home from Mexico, his health ruined by exposure and Mexican fever. In a short time he married your dear, sweet loving grandmother, and went on a plantation which my father gave him. Here you, my dear little nephew, were born, another James Wellons. Then your grandfather grew tired of the plantation and sold out and went into business in Black Hawk. He afterwards sold out and went on another plantation to live, where he was living when the War of States broke out.

The war came on, and how that brave, frail mother bore herself through all the trials, how the little children helped and what a splendid cavalryman your gallant father was, and how at last, horses and slaves run off, and Yankee soldiers threatening to take her only son, she put him on the last horse and sent him to his father to join his command.

Jim George, afterwards Brigadier General in the Confederate Army and Senator from Mississippi, died in Texas.

Then I left Mississippi after some heart-breaking days. My father, mother, and brother Benny, died in the years immediately following the surrender. Then my sister, Mrs. Evans Harris, died in Texas. My brother George died there, as did also your mother and two young sisters. Then my only living brother died, so brave, so generous, so handsome, and so true. I am left alone of all my family, and now, dear, I think I have set down all I can remember about the Wellons tribe.

Your little auntie.

P. S. My father told us of some very wild and reckless deeds and daring adventures by some of those same ancestors of early Colonial days, noticeable even in those days, of hard drinking, hard riding, and high gaming sports. One of these maintained a private race track where he raced and bet on his own

thoroughbreds. He was a member of the Knights of the Golden Horse Shoe, owned a superb black stallion which he called Lucifer, and was attended by his body servant whom he called Pluto.

CHAPTER* V.

GRANDFATHER Asa Wellons was born in Southampton County, Virginia, in 1802, on a farm known as Round Hill, now the village of Berlin. And he married Asenath Davis who was born the same year he was, 1802. They married in 1827 at Somerton, Ohio, where all the children were born and raised. Their children, in the order they were born were: Clarinda, who married Asa Ensley, is now a widow, and lives at Huntington, West Virginia. She had several children, but I can't give a list of them; Dr. G. S. Wellons, who first married Annie Griffin. She died at the age of forty-three. Two years later he married Sarah P. McKeever. There were two children by the first mar-

* This sketch was furnished me by James W. Wellons, M. D., of Columbus, Ohio.

riage, viz: Cora E. Wellons and James W. Wellons. Cora died in 1895, age thirty-five. She was married to Oliver Hoffman, and they had four children: Harry, William, Annie and Rhea. Annie and Harry are married. Annie, I think, is in Oregon, and Harry in Kansas. Rhea is also married and lives at Muncie, Indiana. William is in Kansas. James W. Wellons, born 1862, married Nellie McCartney, and lives in Columbus, Ohio. They have two children: Charles, age sixteen and Annie E., age thirteen. Dr. G. S. Wellons by second marriage had one child, a daughter, Mary, age twenty-five, single, and lives with father. George D. Wellons married Mary Blowers, at Barnesville, and removed to Helmsburg, Indiana. They have children, but I can't give you a list of them. Lydia, married William Harlan, and lives at Barnesville. They have three children, viz: Harry and Clarence, living at Barnesville, and Lena married and lives at Salesville, Ohio.

G. S. Wellons, Jr., was born 1835. By writing to George Wellons, Helmsburg, Indiana, you can get information in regard to his family. It has just come to my mind that Clarinda is not a widow as she has married again. I do not know her present name. You can get information in regard to her family as well as her present name by writing to Mrs. Laura Scribner, Barnesville, Ohio. I am sorry that I am not better posted in regard to my genealogy, but what I have written is all I know. Hoping what I have written may put you on the track so you can get the information you desire, and with best wishes for your success, I am,

Your cousin,

J. W. Wellons.

CHAPTER* VI.

ASA Wellons was born in Southampton County, Virginia, in 1802, and moved to Ohio when he was twenty-one or twenty-two. He married Asenath Davis in Somerton, Ohio, who was born the same year he was, 1802. They married in 1827. And he died in 1890; and she in 1896.

They had six children. Two died when they were only a few months old. Their oldest child, Clarinda, was born August 2, 1828. Dr. Granville S. Wellons, now in Barnesville, Ohio, was born September 22, 1834. George D. Wellons was born December 7, 1838. Lydia was born February 5, 1845. Clarinda married Asa Ensley in 1845. To them were born eight children, four boys and four girls. Addison, Clarinda, Charles, James, Flora,

*This information was furnished by Mrs. Clara E. Scribner of Barnesville, Ohio.

Ann, Mary, and Laura, my mother, who married John F. Scribner in 1882. To their marriage were born Clara E. and Charles Granville Scribner. Grandfather Ensley died in 1881. And grandmother married John D. Martin in 1899, and is now living at Huntington, West Virginia.

My father died when I was very young, and I can't trace my ancestors very far back.

Do you know whether my grandfather was in the Revolutionary War? Answer: I Never heard that he was. Captain John Wellons, a sea-faring captain (and I have heard two brothers) came to Southampton, Virginia over two hundred years ago, and he settled at Round Hill Bridge on a farm, now a village called Berlin, and raised a large family of children; and I have a few of their names: Benjamin, Bob, William, Henry, Wiley, Charles, Thomas, and John. After the death of his father, Bob resided on the old home-stead, and was a most excellent Christian man, member of the Methodist Episcopal

church. He married a Miss Wooten, and her father was a man of means and a large slave-holder. She was a woman of pride and of good taste.

They had twelve children; nine boys and three girls. I have the names of a few of his children: Wilson, Asa, Matthew, and Barbrey who married William Oney, a Revolutionary soldier. Wilson married and raised a large family, near Berlin. Asa moved to Ohio, and from him grew up a large family. Benjamin who was a Revolutionary soldier, with Charles and Wiley, moved to Johnston County, North Carolina, near Smithfield, the county-seat. Benjamin's family spread out into Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Texas, and Colorado, and other states. My grandfather William, and Benjamin were both uncles to Asa. Now comes so many Wellons in Southampton County, I can't give the families in full here, but have given fuller statements elsewhere.

CHAPTER* VII.

GEORGE D. Wellons is the youngest son of Asa Wellons, who was a son of Robert Wellons. Robert Wellons was a son of John Wellons, an ancient settler of Southampton County, Virginia.

Asa Wellons was born in Southampton County, Virginia, on the 23rd of February, 1802, and moved to Somerton, Ohio, in 1825, and was married to Asenath Davis, in the year, 1827. To this union were born three sons and three daughters; two sons and two daughters are still living.

I can say of my father what not many can say, he never swore an oath or drank a dram of whiskey. Our dear father, Asa Wellons, was a grand old man.

*This sketch was furnished by George D. Wellons of Nashville, Ind.

George D. Wellons is the youngest son, he was born at Somerton, Ohio, the 7th of December, 1838, and was married to Mary F. Blowers the 19th of December, 1861, in Barnseville, Ohio. To this union were born four sons and three daughters,—one son and two daughters living.

Our oldest son, Willoughby A. Wellons, was born the 11th of March, 1865, at Barnesville, Ohio, and was married to Eva Dillingham, in April, 1887, at Nashville, Indiana. He commenced teaching school when he was seventeen years old; he represented his district in the Legislature one term, and he is now practicing law at Bloomington, Indiana.

Our oldest daughter, Viola, was born the 11th of October, 1862. She commenced teaching when she was eighteen. She was married to Asa Matthews of Junior, West Virginia, in the year 1888, and died the 28th of October, 1898. She left four children, one son and three daughters.

Our next son, Louis, was born the 10th of June, 1876, commenced teaching when he was eighteen, and was married to May Smith, in the year 1897. He moved to Carmago, Illinois, in the year 1897, and died in August, 1905. His widow and two children live in the Odd Fellows Home, in Lincoln, Illinois.

The next daughter, Alice, was born the 5th of August, 1880, and was married to Harvey Neal, in the year 1899. He is a railroad boss and lives at Unionville, Monroe County, Indiana. They have four children.

The youngest daughter, Nellie, was born the 21st of July, 1884, and was married to Luther Simons, in the year 1902, and moved to Morrisonville in the year 1909.

We moved from Ohio to Indiana in the year 1878, on a farm near Nashville, Brown County. We have lived here thirty-two years. Our farm was all forest when we came to it. Our family all hold to the Methodist church; the children joined in their

childhood. My wife was raised a Quaker, but none of her people live in this part of the state.

CHAPTER* VIII.

BENJAMIN Hardy Wellons was born in Johnston County, North Carolina, July 19, 1827, and died August 19, 1870. He married Caroline Virginia Brumby, in Holmes County, Mississippi, on December 15, 1853. Four children were born to them as follows: Robert Edward, Kate Virginia, Frank Brumby, and Benjamin Hardy, Jr.

At present all but one of the four children are alive. Robert Edward died March 6, 1860, Kate Virginia married Simon Watkins Turner, March 5, 1879, at New Orleans, Louisiana. They now reside on their farm near Winona, Mississippi, and have a large family.

Frank Brumby married Lucy Robertson

*This sketch was prepared by Robert Hardy Wellons of Marietta, Ga.

Northcutt, at Marietta, Georgia, January 5, 1887, where they still live. Six children were born to them.

Benjamin Hardy Wellons, fourth child of the aforesaid Benjamin Hardy Wellons of Mississippi, was married at Marietta, Georgia, on March 20, 1900, to Julia McColloch. Shortly afterwards they moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he is prominently connected with the Knoxville Table and Chair Company a prospering manufacturing company, which was founded by a party of Mariettans from the large concerns there, amongst which party he was, and still is, an active member. Two children have been born to them: They are Margaret, and Benjamin Hardy, Jr.

The father, Benjamin Hardy, Sr., died. The mother, Caroline Virginia, is still living and is with her daughter in Mississippi.

Frank Brumby Wellons, connected with the Brumby Chair Company, of Marietta, for over twenty-five years, his wife, and all but one of the six children are still living: Jen-

nie Lucile married "Cap" Joyner, Jr., Robert Haynes, Alice Edith, Frank Brumby, Jr., twins Wallace Northcutt and Benjamin Hardy, Jr. Benjamin Hardy, Jr. died.

CHAPTER IX.

CONCLUSION.

FOR over two years, I have devoted as much time as I could spare to collecting all the information possible in reference to the Wellons family. I am possibly one of its oldest members now living.

Nothing but the love I have for the family, and to preserve a record of the same could have induced me to have devoted the time and means I have given to the work, without the hope of financial compensation. But I feel, as one of the family, that I have but done my duty.

I am under many obligations to several members of the family for the valuable service rendered me in gathering the information I am now imparting. Through the kindness of the Governor of Ohio, I was put in communication with Dr. James W. Wellons

(M. D.) of Columbus, Ohio, And through him I learned of a large family connection in Ohio and in adjoining states. And also from Mrs. Cora E. Scribner of Barnesville, Ohio, and George D. Wellons, of Nashville, Indiana, I have learned much about that branch of the family.

And from Dr. James D. T. Wellons (M. D.) of Four Oaks, North Carolina, and from James A. Wellons, attorney at law, of Smithfield, North Carolina, of an extensive family in that portion of the state. Some years since I received a letter from Thomas James Wellons, in the southern part of Georgia inquiring about the Wellons family, as they went from Virginia to North Carolina, and from there west, and had spread all through the Southern and Eastern states. Later I received a letter from Nixon N. Wellons of Tampa, Florida, who was a grandson of Judge James Wellons of Mississippi. Through the kindness of Nixon N. Wellons I received a communication from Mrs. Virginia Carolina

Wellons Wells of Aspen, Colorado, giving me valuable information. She is a granddaughter of Judge Wellons.

I have also received a letter from Mrs. C. J. Wellons Miller, Oneco, Florida. Mrs. Miller is also a granddaughter of Judge Wellons. This letter contained information and two obituary notices. Also I have received information from Robert Hardy Wellons of Marietta, Georgia. I got valuable information from Mrs. Priscilla Travis of Airfield, Virginia, and of John Wellons of Sedley, Virginia. To all these and to many others I am so grateful for their valuable help.

Now I have missed a good many names who may feel that they have been overlooked, for the want of time to hunt them up, and have made mistakes all through the work that I do not feel that I am responsible for. I know I will get many criticisms, but let me ask the criticiser if he could have done better?

If I had time I could get many more instructive sketches, but as I am now in my

eighty-fifth year I am afraid to venture further, lest we lose what time I have given to this little book. This little book should be preserved for the good of the rising generation.

I can't write as I used to do. I write now with pencil, and my thoughts are not now as well connected as they were in early life. I am the author of Wellons' Family Prayers, a book of 227 pages, type large, paper white; and these prayers are suited to various occasions, and are not denominational. I am also the author of the Life and Labors of my brother, Rev. W. B. Wellons, D. D., who was a power for the cause of Christ in his day.

Now the question comes, Who is this James Willis Wellons of Elon College, North Carolina? Answer: He is an old man in his eighty-fifth year, weighs about a hundred and ninety-five pounds, is in good health and cheerful, and doesn't use tobacco. He has out-lived rheumatism, bronchitis, asthma,

dyspepsia, neuralgia, etc., and sleeps in a current of fresh air. He has never married. Ah, now we hear it on every side, why did you not marry? It was not for the want of love for the ladies, for I have always thought a pure, virtuous wife was one of the greatest temporal blessings ever bestowed on a man. Disappointments and death by the hand of Providence seemed to seal my destiny in that respect. I board in the girls' dormitory with from fifty to one hundred girls. And much of the time as many as a dozen pianos are playing at the same time, near me, while I write. And I have a pleasant word for them all; then comes a responsive smile.

He has been a minister of the Christian church for over fifty-six years, and has witnessed the conversion of over seven thousand souls, and has married as many persons, preached as many funerals, and visited as many sick as any other minister in this country.

The next question comes: What about the Christian Church? Our Southern branch of the Church is strictly Trinitarian. They baptize by immersion or effusion, as the candidate may desire. They are open communionists, and receive their members on confession of faith. We consecrate infants or children also. (We are not Disciples or Campbellites.)

He never missed but one conference to which he belongs since 1853, and that was in the time of the Cival War, when he was surrounded by the Federal authorities. He has never missed a convention, which meets every two years, since 1856. He has been one of the Trustees and one of the Executive Board of Elon College ever since it has been established, twenty years ago, and has never missed a meeting of the Board. He is co-pastor with Rev. J. O. Atkinson, D. D., of the College church, and directly connected with every enterprise for the good of the



MRS. W. B. WELLONS.



REV. W. B. WELLONS, D. D.

church and college, and at his death his library and what property he may possess all goes to the college. Every body knows him as "Uncle Wellons." He is proud to shake the hands of his many friends, and will be glad to receive communications from any that may read this little book.

And finally, a word from the Book of Amos 4:12—"Prepare to meet thy God."

Prepare means to make ready, to lay aside all prejudice against God and His cause, and to take Him as your Mediator, Redeemer, and Savior. To prepare the heart is to subdue the will of the flesh and to bring it into subjection to the will of God. The preparation of the heart, and the use of the tongue come from the Lord. The origin of every good thought and word and inclination comes from the Lord—a perfect resignation to the will of God. The regenerated heart is manifested by its love, temper, character, and deportment. The hard heart is but little concerned

about the will of God and does not desire to keep it, and does not care to become like Christ. It must be clear of prejudice and anxious to know the will of God. Keep thy heart from corrupt thoughts and evil passions. John 3: 3—Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Stop, reader, have you been born again? We know we have passed from death to life because we love the Church and the brethren. Jesus Christ intercedes for us. His divine nature fits Him to be the Mediator between God and man. Have you taken Him for your Savior? Let us imitate his purity with a clean conscience, clean mouth, clear of profanity or vulgarity or evil speaking, clean from intoxicating drinks, tobacco, or narcotics. This will bring peace to our conscience and to our homes.

The Holy Ghost comes as the Comforter, to bring joy and peace to the troubled heart that we may be able to discern our spiritual

condition. We are all approaching the judgment. Are we prepared to meet it? It is of the greatest importance to be prepared for it.

Where do you stand, reader? What will be the sentence? Lost, lost eternally? God forbid! Salvation is free for you and for me alike. Shall we hear at the Judgment, "Depart from God and all that is pure and perfect?" Or shall we hear the Master say: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." If prepared to meet our God, we will join the mighty host gone before us, with the holy angels, to sing the sweet songs of Zion, and to walk the golden streets of the New Jerusalem.

Let us, dear readers, from this time forth say: "I give my soul, body, time, talent, and all I possess to the Lord, and say, 'Lord, here am I. Use me as it seems good in thy sight.'" Not one that trusts in Christ will ever be lost. Let us all covenant together

to try to meet in that House not made with hands, eternally in the heavens. Christ has gone to prepare a place for us where we will know each other as we are known. That we may meet in this happy home to part no more is my prayer. Finally, brethren, farewell.

J. W. WELLONS.

Elon College,

North Carolina.

August 1, 1910.

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